



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Water Resources Department

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Water Resources Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Hybrid, Salem, Oregon

Attendees

Commissioners	OWRD Staff	Others	
Meg Reeves, Chair	Doug Woodcock	Annette Liebe	Rep. Mark Owens
Kathy Kihara	Racquel Rancier	Rachel Lovellford	Kimberly Priestley
Jan Lee Weinberg	Kim Fritz-Ogren	Adair Muth	Brenda Smith
Joe Moll	Ivan Gall	Grant Nasset	April Snell
Julie Smitherman	Crystal Grinnell	Alexandria Scott	Brent Stevenson
	Bryn Hudson	Lisa Snyder	Wendy Willis
	Alyssa Mucken		

Written material submitted at this meeting is part of the official record and is on file at the Oregon Water Resources Department, 725 Summer Street NE, Suite A, Salem, Oregon 97301-1271.

Agendas, minutes, PowerPoint presentations, staff reports, and audio/video files are available on the Department's [website](#).

Chair Reeves called the meeting to order and the Commissioners introduced themselves. Vice-Chair Quaempts and Commissioner Wolfe were not present and their absences were excused.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwgRTHs6J0o>

A. Integrated Water Resources Strategy Work Session

Crystal Grinnell, Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRs) Specialist, and Wendy Willis, Director, of Oregon's Kitchen Table, led a work session regarding the IWRs.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwgRTHs6J0o&t=42s>

Continuation of IWRS Work Session after break

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwgRTHs6J0o&t=4617s>

B. 2023 Legislative Session Update

Bryn Hudson, Legislative Coordinator, provided an overview of the 2023 Legislative Session.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwgRTHs6J0o&t=11850s>

C. Director's Report

Doug Woodcock, Acting Director, provided an update on Department business and late-breaking issues.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwgRTHs6J0o&t=18020s>

D. Feasibility Study Grants Funding Recommendations

Kim Fritz-Ogren, Planning, Collaboration and Investments Section Manager, and Adair Muth, Grant Coordinator, presented the funding recommendations for the 2022-2023 funding cycle of Feasibility Study Grants.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwgRTHs6J0o&t=20242s>

Commissioner Smitherman moved to adopt the staff funding recommendations contained in section 4, table 1 of the staff report. Commissioner Kihara seconded. Votes in favor of the motion: Commissioners Kihara, Moll, Smitherman, Weinberg, and Reeves. Votes in opposition: none. Abstained: none. Excused: Commissioners Quaempts and Wolfe. Motion passed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwgRTHs6J0o&t=20985s>

E. Willamette Basin Situation Assessment and Workplan

Alyssa Mucken, Basin Coordinator for the Northwest Region, provided an overview of the Department's assessment of work priorities for the Willamette River Basin.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwgRTHs6J0o&t=22460s>

Public comment by April Snell

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwgRTHs6J0o&t=25598s>

F. Groundwater Portion of Harney Community-Based Water Planning Collaborative's Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Plan

Conveners Representative Mark Owens, House District 60 and Brenda Smith, Executive Director of the High Desert Partnership, as well as Karen Moon, Harney Watershed Council, Alexandria Scott, East Region Engagement Coordinator, and Kim Ogren, Planning, Collaboration, and Investments Section Manager, presented on the groundwater portion of the Harney place-based integrated plan, shared inter-agency support for this key milestone, and provided information about the ongoing surface water planning.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwgRTHs6J0o&t=26840s>

G. Project Implementation Update

Kim Fritz-Ogren, Planning, Collaboration, and Investments Section Manager, provided an update on the 2021-2023 biennium work priorities and projects for her sections.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwgRTHs6J0o&t=30975s>

Water Resources Commission Meeting Minutes

Friday, June 16, 2023

Hybrid, Salem, Oregon

Attendees

Commissioners

Meg Reeves, Chair
Eric Quaempts, Vice-Chair
Kathy Kihara
Jan Lee Weinberg
Joe Moll
Julie Smitherman

OWRD Staff

Doug Woodcock
Rachel Lovellford
Racquel Rancier
Kris Byrd
Grant Nasset
Danielle Gonzalez
Laura Hartt
Annette Liebe

Chair Reeves called the meeting to order and the Commission introduced themselves.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPItNBfN9nw>

H. Well Construction – Proposed Rule Adoption*

Kris Byrd, Well Construction Section Manager, and Laura Hartt, Water Policy Analyst, provided an overview of the Well Construction Rulemaking to implement sections of HB 2145 (2021); HB 4061 (2022); HB 3030 (2019), and SB 688 (2019). The Department presented the proposed rules to the Commission for adoption to meet a July 1, 2023 effective date deadline required by statute.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPItNBfN9nw&t=112s>

Commissioner Moll moved to adopt modified proposed rules. Chair Reeves added as described in Alternative 2.

Alternative 2 was as follows: Adopt modified proposed rules for OAR Chapter 690, Divisions 190, 200, 205, 210, 215, 225, 240, and 260, updating statutory references in Attachment 4 as presented below: (a) Change references within OARS 690-190-0010(8), 690-200-0050(68), 690-200-0050(113), 690-205-0020(5)(e), 690-240-0010(50), 690-240-0010(86), 690-240-0065(5)(e) from “Section 1, Chapter 626, Oregon Laws 2019” to “ORS 670.403” (b) Change references within OARS 690-190-0010(8), 690-200-0050(68), 690-200-0050(113), 690-240-0010(50), 690-240-0010(86), from “Section 1, Chapter 142, Oregon Laws 2019” to “ORS 670.400”

Commissioner Weinberg seconded. Votes in favor of the motion: Commissioners Kihara, Moll, Quaempts, Smitherman, Weinberg and Reeves. Votes in opposition: none. Abstained: none. Excused: Commissioner Wolfe. Motion passed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPItNBfN9nw&t=2673s>

I. Follow up on Commission Discussion of the Commission's Role

Acting Director Doug Woodcock provided an overview of the upcoming work for the Commission, discussed the frequency of meetings and staff workloads, as well as provided some ideas for further engagement.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPItNBfN9nw&t=4050s>

J. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Kihara moved to approve the February 23-24, 2023 Water Resources Commission minutes; seconded by Commissioner Smitherman. Votes in favor of the motion: Commissioners Kihara, Moll, Quaempts, Smitherman, Weinberg, and Reeves. Votes in opposition: none. Abstained: none. Excused: Commissioner Wolfe. Motion passed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPItNBfN9nw&t=8322s>

K. Commissioner Comments

Commissioners reported on their recent activities, shared information, and commented on a variety of water resource topics.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPItNBfN9nw&t=8386s>

L. Water Use Reporting Waiver Request Process Overview

Rachel LovellFord, Surface Water Hydrology Section Manager, shared information about the water user reporting program requirements and the accuracy waiver process as it relates to the commission (OAR 690-085-0010(6)). This presentation is in anticipation of a waiver request that may come before the Commission for water rights being reassigned to Burnt River Irrigation District through the district re-mapping process.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPItNBfN9nw&t=9612s>

M. Public Comment and Other Issues

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPItNBfN9nw&t=10783s>

Executive Session

The Oregon Water Resources Commission met in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(20)(h) to allow the commission to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPItNBfN9nw&t=10957s>

Motion to Authorize Department of Justice to Remove Cases that Name the Water Resources Commission

Vice-Chair Quaempts moved to authorize DOJ to remove cases that name the OWRC as defendants in challenges to regulatory orders issued by the Department regarding calls for determined claim KA 622. Commissioner Kihara seconded. Votes in favor of the motion: Commissioners Kihara, Moll, Quaempts, Smitherman, Weinberg and Reeves. Votes in opposition: none. Abstained: none. Excused: Commissioner Wolfe. Motion passed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPItNBfN9nw&t=13305s>

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Mindy Lane, Executive Support, Director's Office.